

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 153138

EXDIS FOR US DELEGATION (DR. BOURNE) UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNDP, SHUM, VM, UNFPA

SUBJECT: UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: UNFPA POPULATION
RESETTLEMENT PROJECT IN VIETNAM

REFS: (A) GENEVA'S 9066, (B) USUN 2542, (C) STATE 148151,
(D) GENEVA 9094

1. GENEVA'S REPORTS OF CONVERSATION WITH SALAS (REFS A AND
D) CROSSED WITH DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON RESPONSE TO
JAPANESE BASED ON AMBASSADOR ABE'S INCOMPLETE ACCOUNT OF
WHAT SALAS IS PROPOSING. WE HAVE ADVISED THE JAPANESE OF
OUR OWN CONCERNS ABOUT UNFPA SUPPORT FOR THIS POLITICALLY
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CONTROVERSIAL PROGRAM. WE STILL QUESTION WHETHER UNFPA
INVOLVEMENT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE FUND.

2. USDEL SHOULD ONCE AGAIN POINT OUT U.S. RESERVATIONS TO
AKASHI, NOTING IN PARTICULAR OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS.
YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THE KINDS OF ASSURANCES THAT U.S. WOULD
HAVE REQUIRED FROM UNFPA AND SRV HAD U.S. FUNDS BEEN

INVOLVED, DRAWING ON PARA 5 BELOW. WHILE WE WOULD NOT PUBLICLY CRITICIZE JAPAN FOR FUNDING SUCH A PROGRAM THROUGH UN, WE WOULD RAISE IN GOVERNING COUNCIL OUR GENERAL CONCERNS THAT HUMAN RIGHTS BE RESPECTED IN ANY UN-SPONSORED POPULATION RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM.

3. IF JAPANESE DECIDE AGAINST PROVIDING EXCLUSIVE FUNDING AND SRV, AS EXPECTED, INSISTS THAT UNFPA PROCEED WITH RESETTLEMENT ASPECTS OF ITS VIETNAMESE PROGRAM, DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PERSUADE SALAS TO DEFER BRINGING THIS PROGRAM BEFORE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL PENDING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS. USING THE ARGUMENTS CONTAINED IN STATE 148151, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT FORCING THIS PROGRAM AS IT PRESENTLY STANDS THROUGH THE COUNCIL WOULD DAMAGE THE INTERESTS OF BOTH THE UNFPA AND SRV. U.S. WOULD HAVE TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM APPROVAL OF THIS PROJECT IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL AND TO EXPLAIN ITS SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE POPULATION RESETTLEMENT ASPECTS OF THIS PROJECT. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO CHALLENGE SRV ON AID ISSUE AT GOVERNING COUNCIL (AND THIS SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED TO SRV) NOR PUBLICLY TO CHALLENGE UNFPA, WE WOULD HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE.

4. YOU SHOULD STRESS ADVANTAGES TO SRV AND UNFPA OF PUTTING ISSUE OVER TO NEXT GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING, CONFIDENTIAL

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NOTING THAT WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SALAS CAN EASILY DO THIS IF HE SO DESIRES.

5. IF IT BECOMES APPARENT THAT SALAS HAS MADE A FIRM DECISION TO PROCEED TO SEEK GOVERNING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF REGULAR FUNDING OF VIETNAM PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE RESETTLEMENT PORTION, YOU MAY TELL HIM THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE CIRCUMSTANCE IN WHICH U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO ACQUIESCE IN GOVERNING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE PLAN WITHOUT MAKING PUBLIC THE RESERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE MAYNES/SALAS LETTER. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE AGREED IN WRITING BETWEEN THE SRV AND UNFPA THAT:

-- HUMAN RIGHTS, AND SPECIFICALLY RIGHT TO FREE MOVEMENT AS CALLED FOR IN THE WORLD POPULATION PROGRAM OF ACTION, WOULD BE FULLY RESPECTED.

-- UNFPA REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE ALLOWED FULL FREEDOM TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM IN THE NEW ECONOMIC ZONES THEMSELVES WHENEVER THEY WISHED FOR AS LONG AS THEY WISHED.

-- UNFPA WOULD REPORT TO EACH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING
ON OBSERVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THIS PROGRAM AND
ITS ABILITY TO MONITOR PROGRAM ADEQUATELY.

-- PROGRAM WOULD BE TERMINATED AT ONCE IF THERE WERE
EVIDENCE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE BEING VIOLATED OR THAT
ADEQUATE MONITORING IS NOT BEING PERMITTED.

6. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO SALAS THAT WE BELIEVE THESE
KINDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS GUARANTEES SHOULD BE BUILT INTO
ANY SIMILAR PROGRAMS INVOLVING ASSISTANCE IN POPULA-
TION RESETTLEMENT AND THAT FUTURE PROGRAMS WHEREVER
MOUNTED SHOULD CONTAIN SIMILAR PROVISIONS. IT IS IN
THIS CONTEXT THAT THESE REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE EXPLAINED
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TO VIETNAMESE. ANY AGREEMENT ALONG ABOVE LINES WOULD
ALSO BE ANNOUNCED TO GOVERNING COUNCIL IN THAT CONTEXT.

7. IF SALAS ARGUES THAT HE CANNOT SUGGEST SUCH CON-
DITIONS HIMSELF, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT WE AND
OTHERS WOULD BE WILLING TO RAISE THESE REQUESTS IN
GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSIONS.

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8. EVEN IF SALAS IS PREPARED TO PROCEED ALONG ABOVE
LINES, WE THINK HE WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO DEFER
THE PROJECT UNTIL THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING TO PERMIT
FUTURE CONSULTATIONS.

9. SHOULD DELEGATION DECIDE TO PROCEED WITH THE ABOVE
FALLBACK SCENARIO, SUGGEST DELEGATION DISCUSS THIS
WITH OTHER FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE
U.K., DUTCH AND THE SWEDES, STRESSING THE GENERAL
NATURE OF OUR HUMANITARIAN CONCERN ABOUT THIS ISSUE.
WE SHOULD URGE THAT THEY JOIN US IN REPRESENTATIONS
TO SALAS, OR, IF NECESSARY, IN STATEMENT TO GOVERNING
COUNCIL. CHRISTOPHER

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